

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 ABIDJA 00611 200945Z

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-08 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 /058 W

-----076889 210233Z /62

R 200910Z JAN 78

FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6999

INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS ABIDJAN 0611

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, IV, FR

SUBJ: ROMANIAN COMMERCIAL EXHIBITION

1. THE GOR IS SPONSORING A LARGE COMMERCIAL EXHIBITION IN ABIDJAN. EXHIBITION STARTED 17 JANUARY AND WILL RUN THROUGH 23 JANUARY. IT FEATURES A BROAD RANGE OF ROMANIAN PRODUCTS, INCLUDING: METAL, ELECTRONIC AND COSMETIC/BEAUTY PRODUCTS; CONSUMER GOODS; PASSENGER CARS; TRACTORS; RADIO AND TELEVISION SETS; AND AN ASSORTMENT OF ROMANIAN HANDICRAFTS. THE ROMANIANS ARE ALSO EXHIBITING MODELS OF OIL TANKERS AND SUPPLY AND CARGO SHIPS.

2. AT LEAST TWENTY ROMANIANS ARE AT THE EXHIBITION TO ESCORT THEIR IVORIAN GUESTS. THE EXHIBITION AREA COVERS A SPACE OF ONE THOUSAND SQUARE METERS. VERY ATTRACTIVE BROCHURES IN FRENCH, GERMAN AND ENGLISH ARE BEING DISTRIBUTED. A GENERAL TRADE PROMOTION EXHIBIT, THE SHOW IS USUALLY SENT TO SEVERAL CITIES AT A TIME; HOWEVER, ABIDJAN IS THE UNIQUE STOP ON THIS TOUR.

3. DURING THE FIRST THREE DAYS OF THE EXHIBIT,  
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THE CROWDS HAVE BEEN SMALL AND ROMANIAN PROMOTERS VOLUNTEERED THAT THEY HAVE NOT YET BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN FINDING LOCAL AGENTS OR DISTRIBUTORS FOR THEIR PRODUCTS.

4. COMMERCIAL TRADE BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES IS MINIMAL AT PRESENT. IN 1976 TOTAL TWO-WAY TRADE BE-

TWEEN THEM AMOUNTED TO 400 MILLION CFA (APPROXIMATELY  
US 1,700,000).

5. AT THE OPENING CEREMONY, THE ROMANIAN AMBASSADOR  
REMARKED THAT THE EXHIBITION WAS PART OF THE HAPPY  
EVOLUTION IN BILATERAL RELATION. THE VISIT OF  
CEAUSESCU IN FEBRUARY 1977 HAD "MARKED A VERY IM-  
PORTANT POLITICAL EVENT, AS REFLECTED IN THE BROADENED  
OPPORTUNITIES FOR COOPERATIVE AND FRUITFUL RELATIONS  
BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES." THE AMBASSADOR ADDED  
THAT ROMANIA WAS EAGER TO EXPAND ITS COMMERCIAL RE-  
LATIONS WITH IVORY COAST AT VARIOUS LEVELS.  
STEARNS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Review Markings:**  
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